




Speech By  
**Deb Frecklington**

**MEMBER FOR NANANGO**

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**ADJOURNMENT**

**Nanango Electorate, Anzac Day**

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (11.18 pm): I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the RSL subbranches throughout the Nanango electorate for their organisation for each of their Anzac Day services. This year I had the pleasure of attending the 4.20 dawn service in Kingaroy, the 6 am service in Yarraman and then the Esk memorial service at 10.40 am. It was a privilege to be involved in these events and witness the level of respect and pride within our communities for this important day in the calendar of all Australians. It was also wonderful to see the number of schoolchildren and children attending these events throughout the electorate.

The day prior to Anzac Day I also had the pleasure of speaking at Crows Nest and Esk state schools and also attending Toogoolawah State School for their Anzac Day service. I had the pleasure at Toogoolawah State High School of hearing a 13-year-old boy from year 8, Nick Teski, read out a poem. I would like your indulgence, Madam Speaker, to read this poem and keep in mind that this young boy is only in year 8. It was such a moving poem, so I would like to congratulate him on the poem. I would like to read it into the record today. It states—

On Anzac Day we stand at ease  
Bowling down to the fallen who are now at peace  
Remembering the Aussie soldiers that were then  
In the trenches shell-shocked and scared  
Prepared for battle with gun in hand  
Fighting for Australia's freedom in a foreign land  
On that fateful Day April 25  
Not knowing the young Aussies would make it out alive  
For four long years the war dragged on  
As Australia's bravery shone  
From World War I to Afghanistan  
From Gallipoli to the battle of Long Tan  
Because of the strength and gallantry of these men  
That is why we remember them

That was by Nick Teski, a year 8 student. I then requested a copy of that wonderful poem and used it in my speech at the other schools but, most importantly, in my address at the Anzac Day parade in Esk on such a solemn occasion. It was wonderful to see that our education system is teaching these young people about the meaning of Anzac Day. I congratulate Nick, his school, the community and his parents because his poem truly captures the spirit of the Anzacs and the meaning of Anzac Day.